

# Plane Restorations bring history to Elba

by Linda Hodge

History is being rekindled in Elba through the restoration of planes whether they be old war birds, the classics or replicas.

Mike Haynes, owner of Wing Nuts Aircraft Re/Builders, has been involved with aviation nearly all his life, and began his plane restoration business almost two years ago.

Although Haynes has been a commercial rated pilot since 1975, he said he spent much of his career in airport management instead of flying. Piloting has always been a hobby for him and not work. And, it was his fascination and love for aircraft that led to his current trade.

"It (plane restoration) is not anything I set out to do," Haynes said. "I've always been an avid modeler, and I got into this business sort of

haphazardly."

He said people would see his modeling work and began asking him to do things for them. That soon led to a suggestion that he restore planes for a living.

Haynes began his business, Wing Nuts, in Enterprise two years ago, but moved to the Elba Airport about six months ago after learning of an available hanger at the airport. He decided to move the business to the airport after the Elba Airport Authority approved his use of the hanger. Haynes said having the hanger at the airport has been very helpful to his business and trade.

Among the planes he currently is working to restore is a full size replica of a 1913 Morane - Saulnier N. Haynes said once this plane is complete, the owner will take it to trade shows and air shows for people to

see and admire.

The Morane - Saulnier, is just one of the many planes that Haynes restores for people to have as show items, as well as, own a part of aviation history.

But show items are not the only use people get out of the planes that Haynes restores. Many of the

planes are still used for flying, just like the completely restored 1937 Fairchild 24 which is currently at the Elba Airport.

"This is one of those planes you look at and think about Amelia Earhart or other famous pilots from our past," Haynes said while admiring the Fairchild. "I was amazed by

the beauty of this piece of aircraft when we flew her in earlier this week."

He said many people want the old planes restored so they can have them for "fun flying" in their spare time. He even mentioned one man who is having a plane restored so he can teach his children how to fly.

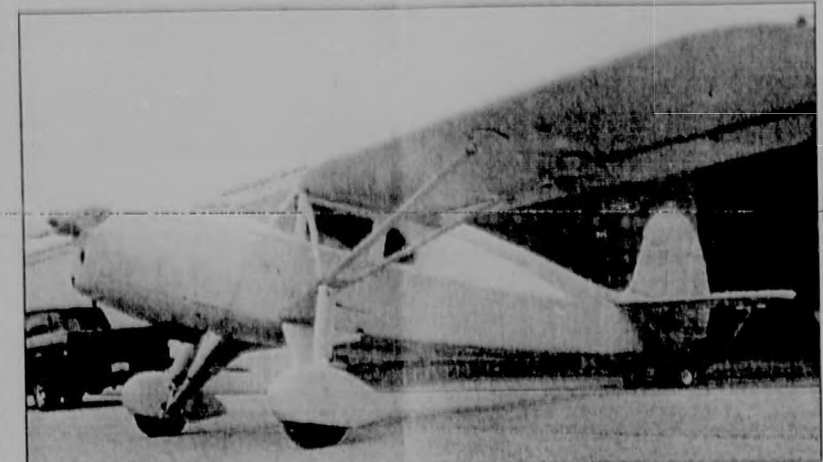
Although his hanger currently contains several old planes like the Morane - Saulnier awaiting restoration, Haynes said he will restore any model of plane. He said it just seems as if he is attracting the older

ones at the present time.

The business is advertised nationally, and Haynes said he has gotten inquiries from all over the country. One of the planes he currently is restoring is for someone from New York.

"As I said earlier, I never planned on doing this," said Haynes. "I do enjoy it, and it makes me feel good knowing that I am able to restore this aircraft for show and/or use."

Maybe it is said best in the Wing Nuts motto, "We make legends fly!"



This 1937 Fairchild 24 which recently flew in to the Elba Airport has been completely restored. It is currently occupying one of the airport's hangers.

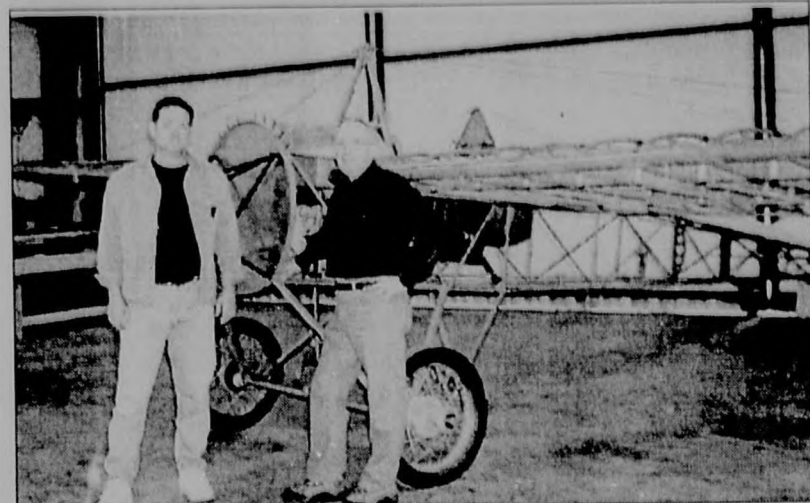
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Mike Haynes (left) along with other Wing Nuts employees put the wings on this full-size replica of a 1913 Morane-Saulnier N last Friday.

## Committee organized to honor bicentennial anniversary of George Washington's death

Organization of a Coffee County committee to coordinate 1999 activities tied to the bicentennial anniversary of President George Washington's death has been completed.

Members are leaders of the John Coffee Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and Wiregrass Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, both local organizations. The local group will be called the Coffee County (Ala.) George Washington Bicentennial Committee.

Members from the John Coffee Chapter are: Mrs. Nell Gilmer,

regent, Elba; Mrs. Elsie Hilton, vice regent, New Brockton; Mrs. Charlotte Hobson, past regent, Elba; Wiregrass Chapter: Richard A. Kemp II, president, Ozark; John Ray Fuller, vice president, Enterprise; John R. Wallace, Secretary/Treasurer, Enterprise.

Plans call for area mayors to sign proclamations for citizen observance; presentations of children's books about Washington to city libraries, and community meetings. Interested persons may call Mrs. Gilmer or Mr. Kemp for more information.

## Coffee County farmers selected for national financial study

Several local Coffee County farmers will be selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) annual Agricultural Resources Management Study.

This study will collect information on agricultural income and expenses, assets and liabilities, cost of producing various commodities, and other farm characteristics.

Herb Vanderberry, state statistician with the Alabama Agricultural Statistics Service in Montgomery

said, "Information collected from local producers will help show the financial health of agriculture and which sectors are more financially vulnerable than others."

Farmers selected for the study will be notified by letter, and Vanderberry stresses that individual reports are strictly confidential.

Reports will be combined to develop an economic picture of conditions at the state, regional and national levels.

## SBA maintains a resource center at Enterprise Chamber of Commerce

The Small Business Administration maintains a resource center at the Chamber of Commerce in Enterprise. A representative from the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Troy State University's main campus will visit the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, March 18 from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Interested persons should call 347-0581 to set up an appointment.

Counseling services for small businesses are provided quarterly at the resource center in Enterprise by the SBDC-TSU. These services are provided to individuals at no charge. In addition, a mini-library consisting of various government publications will be maintained for examination in the resource center. Publications will not be available for distribution; however, forms for ordering the publications will be provided.

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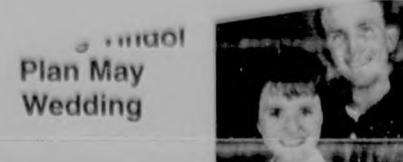
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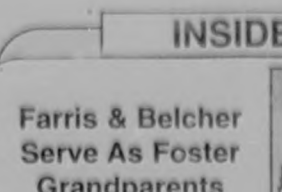
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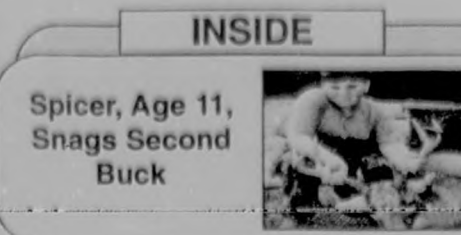
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# The Elba Clipper

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50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, February 25, 1999

1 Section, 16 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

## County could be rewarded for good bridge maintenance

by Marvin McLwain, Editor

The Coffee County Highway Department got a tremendous "Ataboy" in Monday's bi-monthly meeting of the county commission.

Randy Tindell, county engineer, reported to the commissioners that Coffee County is in a three-way tie for the best bridges in the state of Alabama.

He stated as a matter of background that at the close of last year (1998), some 1,685 county bridges within the state were posted with a load limit of 12,980 tons or less. The significance of this limit is that no school bus can cross a bridge which has been restricted to this load limit.

"County roads in Alabama constitute 84.4 percent (58,499 miles) of the total road network in the state," said Tindell. "The combined road and bridge budgets for Alabama counties total \$260,536,831.00 or \$4,453.69 per mile."

Tindell compared that to the 10,845 miles of state and federal roads maintained by the Alabama Department of Transportation (DOT). Total funds available to the state DOT in FY 97 totaled \$1,079,491,475.57 or more than \$99,536 per mile.

"There is a remarkable difference in the cost of maintenance," he said. In addressing a proposed \$300 million bond issue to be used in rural bridge replacement, Tindell said, "A total of 14 counties have maintained their bridges in such a way that at least 85 percent of their bridges meet federal standards. To reward these counties and to allow them to catch up on road resurfacing, which may have suffered during their emphasis on bridge replacement, the proposal includes another \$35 million earmarked for road resurfacing in the 14 qualifying counties."

"Due to Coffee County's work done on bridges in past years, the county has only two (2) bridges that are rated at 12,980 tons or less (9 tons) which prohibit the use by loaded school buses," said Tindell.

These two bridges are located in the northeast portion of the county on Co. Rd. 308, with only 300 to 400 feet between them. The estimated cost of replacing the two bridges is \$1,018,826.71. Tindell noted that the high cost of the bridges is due to their combined length of almost 700 feet.

The engineer noted that under the proposed bond issue, Coffee County - as a reward for its past work done on maintaining its rural bridges - is set to receive \$3,766,000 of which \$2,747,000 may be used for resurfacing county roads. The remaining funds will be used to replace the two deficient bridges.

Tindell also commented on the manner in which the \$300 million bond issue could be repaid. It was noted that the annual debt service of \$21 million per year for 25 years could be made by utilizing a portion of the gasoline tax that is retained solely by the state or a portion of the current levy on diesel fuel tax.

At the present time, the statewide tax levied on the sale of diesel fuel is received solely by the state DOT. County governing bodies receive a substantial portion of the levies on gasoline to be used on maintaining rural roads and bridges. However, in FY 1997-98, the diesel fuel tax produced more than \$11 million for the state DOT to be used exclusively on state roads.

Tindell commented that a large number of these diesel burning vehicles travel on rural, county-maintained roads and bridges.

The engineer urged the commissioners and the residents of the county to urge passage of this pro-

posed \$300 million bond issue by the legislature.

"I sure would like to take advantage of that \$2.7 million to do some resurfacing of county roads," said Tindell. "This would be very beneficial to residents of the county."

At the close of his "time" with the commission, Tindell requested that a work session be scheduled to discuss the plan situation at the landfill and the FY-99 chip seal resurfacing project.

County Administrator Wilson Mobley reported on the negotiations with Pursuit Unlimited to reach a settlement on the purchase of a 1996 reconditioned police car that turned out to be a 1995 model instead. He told commissioners that both he and the county attorney had communicated with company officials and settlements of \$1,000 and \$1,500 have been offered; however Mobley said in his checking prices with local automobile dealers, that if the matter could be resolved by accepting a \$2,500 difference, it would be to the county's advantage.

After several minutes of discussion, Commissioner Robert Stepien made a motion that the county administrator and attorney settle with the company for \$2,500.00. Commissioner Doug Dalsymple cast the lone dissenting vote.

Once again Martin Moates, of the NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service), presented the commission with three (3) checks totaling almost \$50,000.00, which will be used to fund ongoing gully repairs throughout the county.

Moates said there will be other checks coming in the near future.

Robert Crowder, executive director of the Southern Alabama Regional Council On Aging (SARCOA), appeared before the county commission to brief them on the

## Elba City Council split on garbage

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council vote Monday evening was split on approving the recommended adjustments to the garbage pick-up charges to various commercial establishments. Council members Ben Carpenter and Ronnie Hammond opposed the action, saying they felt a business with once-a-week pick-up shouldn't be paying any more than a resident with the same pick-up schedule.

They were told this rate schedule was part of the garbage ordinance and not subject to casual adjustment.

The approved schedule corrects the charges being assessed to reflect actual pick-up times and/or size of garbage container. Mayor James Grimes noted the city thought there were about 19 large dumpsters in the town, but closer inspection showed over 30 were actually being

used. The city was paying for this service, paying landfill fees on this amount of garbage, but was not collecting the money.

After the adjustments, Grimes said some commercial rates would come down and some would go up, but the total should balance out. The new garbage contract will have to be renegotiated because of these additional dumpsters, and the total annual cost will be between \$140,000 and \$150,000. The mayor pointed out that this is still less than the city was previously paying for garbage service. The garbage fee schedule is now on computer in such a way that it can be reviewed, adjusted, etc. without printing the entire utility bill.

The council made two appointments to the Elba Industrial Board. Doris Matthews and Barry Giles were each charged to represent a five-year term.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported he would begin interview-

ing police officer candidates to fill two vacancies on the force. There was one existing slot and Whitworth announced the resignation of 14-year veteran Sergeant Randy White, who has accepted a position with an out-of-town private investigation firm.

The council accepted bids on jerseys for youth baseball teams. Trojan Graphics of Troy was low bidder on each item and was awarded the bid.

City Clerk Donnie Morrow told council members the bids for the sewer expansion project will be opened on April 15th. He also said that construction was underway on the bathrooms and concession stand at the Mulberry ballpark.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported he would begin interview-

## Disaster Recovery Task Force to meet Thursday afternoon in continuing effort

The Governor's Disaster Recovery Task Force will continue the year-long effort to flood-proof Elba citizens Thursday afternoon when the members meet with FEMA representatives concerning the long delay in getting buy-out funds to qualified applicants.

The Task Force will also discuss with National Guard officials the additional flood protection work needed with which the Alabama National Guard may be able to assist.

State Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer, both new members of the task force, will be present and offering their help with the many ongoing projects the task force is following. Both have been furnished copies of reports on

past actions and pending work. Even though this will be their first meeting, each one has already been active in making contacts and securing help for flood victims.

The committee meets at the Elba City Hall at 2 p.m. Thursday afternoon.

Other agencies expected to be represented include Alabama Emergency Management Agency, a prime mover in this work, ADCA, which help with grants, etc.; Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development; Choctawhatchee, Pea & Yellow River Watershed Management Authority, which has been active helping the Corp of Engineers in getting the levee overhaul underway.

CLERK'S OFFICE CLOSED. The City Clerk's office, Town of New Brockton, will be closed March 2 through 5, 1999 due to illness in family. In case of needs causing work-stoppage, contact Mayor Britt Lee @ 894-0664.

VIETNAM VETS MEET. VVA 373, Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 6:30 p.m. at the Clayhatchee Community Building. Members, family, and guest are welcome. Plans for the state banquet to be held in Enterprise, AL on June 12, 1999 will be discussed. For information contact 347-1426 or 598-8804.

DISASTER SERVICE CLASSES. The Coffee County American Red Cross has scheduled Disaster Service Classes at Ft. Rucker on March 1 (9:12 a.m. & 6-9 p.m.), March 3 (9:12 a.m.), and March 5 (9:12 a.m.). The classes will cover the following topics: Introduction to Disaster (Mar. 1); Mass Care Overview (Mar. 3); and Shelter Operations (Mar. 5). There is no charge for disaster classes but preregistration is required. Call (334)255-1055.

activity of the council. The council oversees activities of senior citizens in a seven county and thirty-four (34) Senior Citizens Centers. He noted that the programs administered by the council are funded by the federal government.

Crowder touched on the two major programs administered by SARCOA - Title III program and Medicaid Waiver Service program. The Title III program basically involves the operation of the senior citizens centers. The major service provided under this program is a nutritious meal - more than 300,000 served - with 18 to 19 percent of those meals being delivered to homebound seniors by volunteers. This provides a two-fold service - a nutritious meal and a visit from someone who cares.

Certain legal and educational service are provided to the seniors as well as various transportation services. Under the Medicaid Waiver Service, outside-in-home service providers are contracted to help in keeping senior citizens out of the nursing home. They do this by providing various medical assistance services to the seniors. Crowder noted, "For every 100 [seniors] we keep out of the nursing home each

and every year we save the state of Alabama a million dollars." This program is funded by the federal government with the state providing matching funds - for ever \$18 put up by the state, \$82 is received from the federal government.

Crowder concluded, "We are, on a statewide basis, trying to take an aggressive look at finding more monies and doing a better job for our senior citizens."

Coffee County Emergency management Director Charles Webb gave a "quick update" on the address conversion process. He reported that of the fifteen post offices that serve the county, the following have converted over to the E-911 address: Brundidge, Coffee Springs, Daleville, Enterprise, Glenwood, Kinston (partially), Opp, Troy and Samson are very near Elba (the second largest post office) is in the process of notifying their patrons of the changeover.

Webb urged all citizens to properly mark their mail boxes and/or residences with the new E-911 address as noted in the mail-out. "It could mean the difference between life or death since emergency services will be using the E-911 address to locate residences," said Webb.

Any questions concerning E-911 should be directed to the county

EMA office at 894-5415; however, callers should be patient since the phone is extremely busy with the change-over in process.

In other matters of business, commissioners took the following actions:

\*\*\*Made the following appointments: Heber Clark to the Damascus Water Authority; W. R. McDaniel to the Bethany Water Authority; and Jimmy Clark to the Goodman Water Authority.

\*\*\*Tabled for review the two low bids received on two (2) scrapers (pans - earth moving equipment). One was from Flint Equipment in Troy, AL at \$286,000 per unit and the other was submitted by Thompson Tractor of Dothan, AL at \$289,689.00 per unit.

\*\*\*Awarded the bid for steel pipe to Choctaw Inc. of Montgomery. Their total bid was low at \$10,674.00.

\*\*\*The annual bid for driving steel piling was awarded to F & W Construction, Inc., of Ozark, AL. They submitted the only bid at \$23,150.00. The bid was accepted subject to the county engineer negotiating a lower price if possible.

\*\*\*Skyline Steel Corp. was the

Please See CCC, Page 3

## Coffee County opens Family Service Center in health department building

by Marvin McLwain, Editor

A bold step was taken last Friday by Coffee County to assist families in helping themselves become self-sufficient. The Coffee County Family Services Center (CCFSC) located in the county health department building in Enterprise, officially opened its doors to the public.

The exploration into the possibility of such a center for Coffee County actually began in April, 1996 with a small group of interested county citizens looking at the idea. On Friday, the idea became real.

"The fundamental philosophy of the initiative is to provide county-wide assistance in serving whole families," said Barbara Everett, who has been instrumental in bringing the idea into reality. "The concept focuses on utilizing and/or augmenting existing agencies, and communities, by providing a network of services in one central place."

Mrs. Everett added, "Our goal and mission is to provide maximum accessibility, convenience, and utilization of services and facilities without duplicating any services."

"We want to avoid duplication of



RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY...Congressman Terry Everett had the honor of cutting the ribbon with the "Big Scissors." He was assisted by the Center's Executive Director Judy Crowley with Mrs. Barbara Everett and many other officials and residents of the county looking on.

services," said Ms. Judy Crowley, CCFSC Executive Director. "Therefore, we get more for our money."

On of the first programs to be initiated by the Center is home visits to pregnant teens and teenage parents. Known as Building Blocks, the program is based on the curriculum of Parents As Teachers.

Mrs. Crowley said the step-by-step program teaches young women basic child care and parenting skills and also encourages the participants to stay in school or learn a job skill.

Another program administered by the Center will provide Welfare-to-Work transition assistance. The aim of this program is to "monitor, mentor and assist" clients with finding a job, thus breaking the welfare to welfare cycle.

Before the year is out, Ms. Crowley said she hopes the Center will be able to begin a children's dental program. The University of Alabama has donated dental equipment to help get this program started. The next step is to coordinate with local dentists, the health department and schools in initiating dental care for children.

U.S. Congressman Terry Everett was among the hundred-plus state, county, city officials and county citizens who attended the official opening ceremonies.

This concept of not reinventing the wheel, not duplicating services already administered by trained, dedicated and caring professionals and not adding more expense to the taxpayer is a wonderful idea," said Congressman Everett. "This is what Congress had in mind when it passed Welfare Reform!"

He said, "The Center exemplifies

the idea of government and private-community partnerships working together toward the goal of allowing families to make the move from welfare to a better future for themselves and their children."

Businesses, civic organizations and individuals can help in this bold move by providing direct monetary support to underwrite the Center's operational cost. They can also provide products and services such as computers and office supplies, transportation, printing, teaching, etc.

The benefits that can be derived from the Center's operation is an orderly transition from welfare to productive citizens, and reduce the number of persons on welfare thus decreasing the tax support for welfare.

For CCFSC to succeed in its goals, a maximum community commitment and support will be required. It is a public, non-profit services agency designed to meet the needs of a wide range of people in Coffee County.

The staff of the agency consists of the following individuals: Judy Crowley, Executive Director; Mary Alice Wright, Program Coordinator; Rosemary Weekly, Home Visitation Representative; and Christina Green, Intake and Assessment Coordinator.

The officers of the non-profit agency are: Barbara Everett, President; Sandra Coffee, 1st Vice President; Kathleen Sauer, 2nd Vice President; and James Barnes, Treasurer.

For more information concerning the CCFSC, call (334)393-8538 or (334)347-9574.



## EDITORIAL

## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

A local businessman made a suggestion this week which we kinda like. The idea is to rename 203 Bypass in honor of the late Governor Jim Folsom. The idea is that Big Jim did a lot for Elba, Coffee County, and in fact all of Alabama... he will probably be best remembered for all the farm-to-market roads he got paved, giving the rural folks a reliable way to get to and from public jobs in town. We are not going to take this as a project, as our platter is full right now, but hope this idea will trigger memories or something in some one who will take it as a project. Since this former Elba man did so much in the road improvement area, there is probably no better monument to his memory than naming a hometown road in his honor. Okay, somebody... go for it! Folsom Circle, Folsom Boulevard, Folsom Drive... those three suggestions should be enough to get some creative juices flowing.

We talked with the folks from Elba Marketplace this week. They are presently advertising for employees in anticipation of opening the new store in the near future. You can see their ad in the classified section in today's *Clipper*. The opening date is not absolute, but right now they are planning to open the new Elba store during the last week of March. Hopefully the people who have been calling this office about job applications will see, or hear, about them now taking applications from "people who really want to work."

It should be exciting news to Elba folks that Alabama's new governor was in our neighboring Covington County last Friday announcing a commitment to the four-laning of U.S. 84 between Opp and Andalusia. Any work done on that project improves the chances that Coffee County's part of the U.S. highway will be the next section which gets the much needed widening.

Things are looking up around Elba, in spite of the constant flow of bad news which gets repeated most often. There are several retail construction projects underway. Haywood Drugs just moved into their new facility next to Skinner's. Fred's is taking shape. Whitman Drugs is hoping to move into their new facility in the foreseeable future, the long planned sewer expansion project is now out for bids, a boot strap manufacturing operation is getting started in Elba... and that ain't all, but we must have some for later columns!

It is getting closer to time for the Alabama Legislature to meet in their regular annual session. Our policy is to hold our breath until they dismiss and this year will be no exception.

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, February 15, 1999, investigated the following incidents: two forgeries, two thefts of property, two criminal mischiefs, one property damage, two criminal trespasses, one public intoxication, one DUI, one VPL, and one harassing communication.

The following arrests were made during the week: one for harassment, one for public intoxication, one for VPL, and one for defraud secured credit.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: ten for speeding, one for running a red light, one for running a stop sign, one for an expired tag, two for DUI, one for driving while driver's license is suspended, and one for driving while driver's license is revoked.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15** - Alarm at Kelley Foods (5:46 a.m.); River stage - 4.76 feet (6:14 a.m.); Routine activity.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16** - Alarm at a residence on Jones Street (5:34 a.m.); River stage - 4.34 feet (6:10 a.m.); Fire alarm (false alarm) at Elba General Hospital (10:01 a.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17** - River stage - 4.04 feet (6:24 a.m.); Prowler reported on Taylor Mill Road (11:59 a.m.); Wreck reported at Beaver Dam Apts. (8:17 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to wreck at Beaver Dam Apts. (8:18 p.m.); (5:51 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18** - River stage - 4.74 (6:07 a.m.); Routine activity.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19** - River stage - 5.23 feet (6:05 a.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Southeast Alabama Medical Center.

## ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of February 16, 1999, through February 22, 1999. They were: Marlene Parker, Mary Lindsey, Joyce Sanders, Kathryn McDonald, Coley Smith, Rosa Lee Tyson, Dolray Fleming, Thomas Spivey, Timothy Miles, Shane Williams, Joshua Maywood, Josephine Green, Winford Baker, Carolyn Davis, Henry Eiland, Susie Baldwin, Mary Senn, Shelia Bess, Travis Cooper, Lue Head, Betty Driggers, Billy Ray Phillips, Douglas Armstrong, Annie Quattlebaum, Mary Dorsey, Cecil Parker, Terry Bledsoe, Troy Cook,

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20** - River stage - 5.39 feet (6:15 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Taylor Mill Road (6:51 p.m.); Routine activity.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence at the intersection of Co. Rds. 224 & 225 (false alarm) (2:06 a.m.); Prowler reported on Ann St. (4:04 a.m.); River stage - 5.43 feet (6:41 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to a vehicle fire on AL 203 By-pass (5:09 p.m.); Alarm at SouthTrust Bank (10:42 p.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan (10:52 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on Claxton Ave. (11:23 p.m.).

## NOTICE

Visitor Restriction at Elba Nursing Home: A visitor restriction has been enforced at the Elba Nursing Home, according to Ellen Briley, administrator. Due to widespread cases of flu, pneumonia, and respiratory infections in the community, there will be no routine visiting until further notice. No children please. All visitors MUST report to the nurses station for further instructions, and everyone's cooperation is appreciated.

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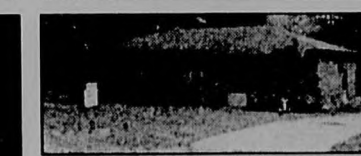
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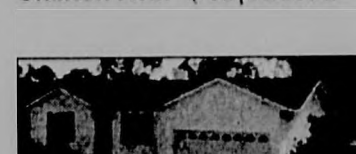
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**Sunset Blvd 2,027 Sq. Ft. - 4 BR - 2 baths - storage bldg. patio - basement \$79,500**



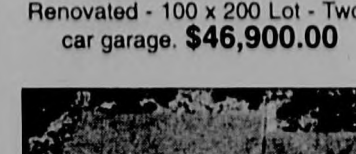
**1077 Sunset Blvd. 1,131 Sq. Ft. 2 BR - 2 Baths Totally Renovated - 100 x 200 Lot - Two-car garage. \$46,900.00**



**Located On AL Hwy. 125 2 AC 1 Yr. Old - 3 BR - 2 Baths. This is a beautiful home! \$114,900.00**



**1083 Sunset Blvd. 2 BR - 1 Bath Nice Neighborhood 1,136 Sq. ft. IMMACULATE! Central H/C \$47,900.00**



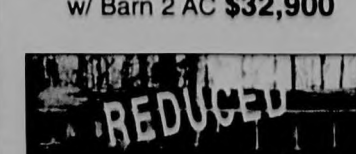
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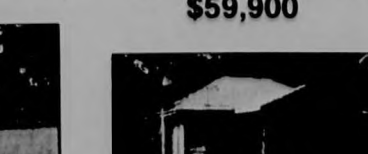
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**UNDER CONTRACT**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

A lie is a lie is a lie, and a lie under oath is perjury. It does not depend on the definition of the word "lie."

A big "thank you; well done" to Senator Jeff Sessions for his votes to convict Clinton of perjury and obstruction of justice.

However, there is no way Senator Richard Shelby can justify his vote to acquit Clinton of perjury. I am extremely disappointed. Peggy Noonan said, "Politicians seem like weak egomaniacs, people so weak that they let polls push them around." Sad to say, Sen. Shelby fits the description. His aide, Tom Young, asked me, "How do you account for the polls?"

Apparently Sen. Shelby listened to the polls and not to the people who voted for him. His vote for

acquittal has made him part and parcel of Clinton's deceit and abuse of the law.

It is a sad thing for the people of Alabama who saw the promise of statesmanship in Sen. Shelby dashed by this historic vote.

Sincerely,  
Betty A. Bostwick  
Cahaba Heights

Dear Ferrin:

What a wonderful program National Security provided for us on Thursday night. The Rainer Twins from Opp are always a special treat and the cast members of "Ain't Misbehavin'" were great. If you were not there you missed a very good evening of entertainment.

We are indeed fortunate to have National Security in our town, and we are blessed to have such a state-

of-the-art school plant. I am still impressed every time I go on the campus, especially during the day-night hours. At night the story is a bit different. Is there no way that the city could provide street lights on the campus? I am so afraid that someone not familiar with the campus is going to run off the road or fall down as they walk on the dark grounds to and from their parking place. It could happen to those of us who do know our way around as well. It is a special problem for those who park in the front of the high school building because they are not able to climb all the steps in the back.

Is there anyone out there who can help?

Sincerely,  
Nancy C. Brunson

## CCC

(Continued from Page One)

low bidder on supplying steel piling. Their bid was \$7,990.00.

\*\*\*Signed a resolution authorizing the chairman to enter into an agreement with the State of Alabama for the pre-engineering of an emergency relief project on Co. Rd. 474.

\*\*\*Resolutions were approved allowing the chairman to enter into an agreement with the state DOT for the resurfacing of Co. Rds. 105 and 461.

\*\*\*Voted to have the paving project on Co. Rd. 231 follow the existing roadbed.

\*\*\*Voted to pave Co. Rd. 601 as far as the county has secured deeds to the right-of-way.

\*\*\*Signed a resolution to enter into an agreement with the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority for the repair of erosion underneath Coles Bridge on Co. Rd. 147.

\*\*\*Approved sending out bid requests for the repair of the undercarriage on the D6 bulldozer at the county landfill.

\*\*\*Retabled the bids received on the old piers.

Mr. Lester Christian Finner, age 59, of Elba, died Feb. 17, 1999, at Flowers Hospital.

Two p.m. funeral services were held Feb. 19, 1999, at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Dr. Tony Dye and Rev. Mike Medley officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Finner was preceded in death by a son, Perry Finner.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Fund. Survivors include his wife: Lou Ellen Finner, Elba; two daughters: Tammy Davis and Terri Ellen Finner, both of Elba; mother: Olive Finner, Marshfield, Wis.; a sister: Bettie Finner, Marshfield, Wis.

**SMITH FAMILY**  
We would like to thank everyone for their concern and kindness shown to us during the loss of our loved one VERA LINDA SMITH and a special thanks to the community and Hospice Service.

THE SMITH FAMILY

2-25-TTP

LEVERETT FAMILY

We would like to thank all our friends and neighbors for the prayers, food, cards and acts of kindness during the death of our loved one.

THE FAMILY OF MONROE LEVERETT

2-25-TTC

BEATRICE BRUNSON SAXON

Mrs. Beatrice Brunson Saxon, age 97, died Feb. 21, 1999. She was a resident of the Village at Cook Springs, Ala., and the last surviving child of John Franklin and Ella Brunson of Elba.

Funeral services were held Feb. 24, 1999, at 2 p.m. at Southside Chapel, with interment in Elmwood Cemetery.

Mrs. Saxon was a long-time Birmingham resident and former school teacher and was an art and music major at the Alabama College for Women at Montevallo.

She was preceded in death by her husband George.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation or a charity of choice.

## AREA DEATHS

**LUCILLE FARRIS BOWDOIN**  
Mrs. Lucille Farris Bowdoin, age 84, died Feb. 21, 1999, at the Elba Nursing Home.

Funeral services were held Feb. 23, 1999, at 2 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Mart Gray and Dr. Robert Paul officiating.

Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Bowdoin was a lifelong resident of Elba and Coffee County, and was preceded in death by a son, Donald Bowdoin.

Memorial contributions may be made to Elba First Baptist Church.

Survivors include: her husband: James Cecil Bowdoin, Elba; a son and daughter-in-law: Jim Bowdoin and Louise Bowdoin, Bristol, Tenn.; two granddaughters: LaVonda Keel, Birmingham; and Donna Bowdoin, Bristol, Tenn.; three great-granddaughters: Virginia Keel, Kathleen Keel and Laura Keel; three sisters: Ebbie Bradley, Enterprise; Dixie Ballard, Crestview, Fla.; Marie McCutley, Pensacola, Fla.; five brothers: Charles Farris, Bibb Farris, Dallas Farris, and Wayne Farris, all of Elba; Connie Farris, Saltonsea, Calif.

**LESTER CHRISTIAN FINDER**

Mr. Lester Christian Finner, age 59, of Elba, died Feb. 17, 1999, at Flowers Hospital.

Two p.m. funeral services were held Feb. 19, 1999, at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Dr. Tony Dye and Rev. Mike Medley officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Finner was preceded in death by a son, Perry Finner.

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Mrs. Saxon was a long-time Birmingham resident and former school teacher and was an art and music major at the Alabama College for Women at Montevallo.

She was preceded in death by her husband George.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation or a charity of choice.

Survivors of Mrs. Saxon include a daughter: Bettye S. White, Mt. Royal Towers; a son and daughter-in-law: Jim and Grady Sue Saxon, Leeds; four grandchildren: Brunson White and George Saxon White, Vestavia Hills; Kathy S. Weathers, Huntsville; and Jay Saxon, Russellville, Tenn.; five great grandchildren.

**MONROE B. LEVERETT**  
Mr. Monroe B. Leverett, age 73, of Rt. 1, Glenwood, died Feb. 17, 1999 at his residence.

Funeral services were held Feb. 19, 1999 at Sken Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Donald Smith, Rev. Elbert Smith and Rev. Clon Davis officiating. Burial followed in Antioch Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery near Henderson with Sken Funeral Home of Troy directing.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Exia Mae Nelson Leverett.

Survivors include his wife: Lee Olive Danford Reaves, Elba; two daughters: Claudette (Chris) Whitmore, Galway, N.Y.; Leisa Reaves, Elba; one son: Michael B. Reaves, Mobile; one sister: Peggy R. Carter, Pawley's Island, S.C.; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**LUCY NORTHEY**

Mrs. Lucy Northey, age 90, of Opp died Feb. 13, 1999 at Andalusia Manor Nursing Facility.

Funeral services were held Feb. 15, 1999 at Rainer Funeral Home. Burial followed at Peaceful Acres with Rainer Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include three daughters: Laura Weeks, Montgomery; Juanita Blocker, Enterprise; Judy Weaver, Gant; one son: Wayne Northey, Kinross; one sister: Bertie Warren, Andalusia; 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one grandchild.

Survivors include her husband: Fred McGowan; one son: James Albert Crittenden, Jr., Piscataway, N.J.; two daughters: Janet M. Coleman, Orangeburg, S.C., and Edith Flinn, Enterprise; one step-daughter: Myrtice Dister, Lakeland, Fla.; one daughter-in-law: Elizabeth Crittenden; one son-in-law: Eugene I. Coleman, seven

grandchildren, four great grandchildren.

**EARNST SAULS REAVES**

Mr. Earnst Sauls Reaves, age 67, of Rt. 1, Elba, died Feb. 21, 1999, in Southeast Alabama Medical Center after a brief illness.

Funeral services were held Feb. 23, 1999, at 2 p.m. at Patterson-Sorrells Funeral Home Chapel, with Revs. Danny Maddox and David Richburg officiating. Burial with full military honors followed in the Whitewater Baptist Church Cemetery, with Patterson-Sorrells Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Reaves was a native of Coffee County, having lived in the Elba area for a number of years. He was retired from the U.S. Army after 23 years of service, which consisted of three tours in Vietnam, and was a member of the Honor Guard at Arlington National Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife: Lee Olive Danford Reaves, Elba; two daughters: Claudette (Chris) Whitmore, Galway, N.Y.; Leisa Reaves, Elba; one son: Michael B. Reaves, Mobile; one sister: Peggy R. Carter, Pawley's Island, S.C.; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

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grandchildren, four great grandchildren.

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# SCHOOLS

## FBLA Chapter Preparing For District Competition

by Alisha Walker  
District Competition is a big part of the activities of the Zion Chapel Chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), and students work hard to prepare themselves to compete in different business competitions.

Zion Chapel FBLA is very active and competes in almost every competition. This year District Competition will be held at Jeff Davis High School in Montgomery on March 13. Zion Chapel has fifty students and seven adults who will be attending the meeting. Twenty-nine of the fifty students are going to compete.

Kacy Clark will be competing in Introduction to Business Communication; Dewayne Davis in Business Law; Stacy Jirring in Business Procedures; Sarah Maddox in Business Communications; Rebecca Ward in Introduction to Business; and Blake Weeks in Business Calculations.

Heather Arnold will be competing in Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure; Justin Law, Morgan Hodge, Jessica Kelley, Daphne Jirring, and Tara Grant are the Parliamentary Procedure team. John Arnold and Matt Dunn are competing in Desktop Publishing; Mallorie Besdole in FBLA Policies and Procedures; Chastity Weed in Machine Transcription; Josh Faircloth in Information Processing; Lashell Marler in Word Processing; Crisly Houston in Job Interview.

Charlie Maddox will be competing in Computer Concepts; Chastity Weed in Machine Transcription; Melissa Taylor in Keyboarding Applications; Ceretha Towles in Computer Applications.

**Zion Chapel High School**  
**REBEL NEWS**  
Blake Weeks, Editor  
Rachel Bryan, Sponsor

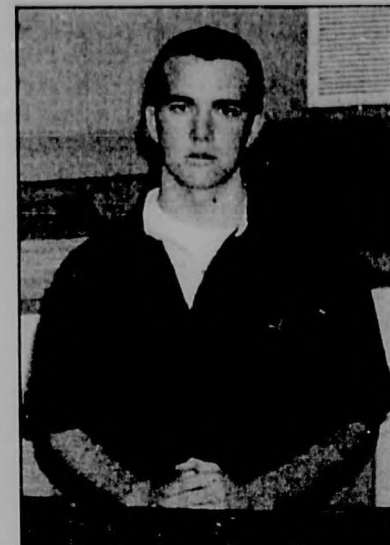
## FBLA Executive Council Meets

by Crisly Houston  
The Executive Council of the Zion Chapel Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) was called into session to select a person to fill the vacancy in the office of president.

The executive council members are Heather Arnold, Tara Grant, Heather Halsey, Crisly Houston, Justin Law, Kendra Ward, Alisha Walker, and Carissa Walker.

It was suggested that a member in good standing had expressed the desire to serve as president. The council voted and Charlie Maddox was made the new FBLA president for the 2C Chapter.

Charlie has been a member of FBLA for four years. He has attended numerous FBLA activities including state conventions, a National Fall Leadership Conference, and Officer Training Conference. He is a member of



**CHARLIE MADDOX**  
FBLA, parliamentarian for FFA, president of Sr. Beta, and vice-president of the senior class.

## Rebel News Briefs

### FHA MEETING

by Carissa Walker  
The Future Homemakers of America (FHA) held a meeting recently during third period in the auditorium of the high school. Mrs. Jonston from "A Plus Sales" spoke about the fundraiser in which the club would participate. All members were given pamphlets containing Easter products. They would have a week to sale. Also, Mrs. Joan Hobbs, sponsor, reminded everyone of the state meeting and encouraged more members to get involved and attend the meeting.

### SOFTBALL TRYOUTS

by Kendra Ward  
The Zion Chapel High School softball tryouts were held Feb. 16-18 from 3:15 to 5 p.m. each afternoon. Requirements for trying out were to be academically eligible, have a physical, and a copy of a birth certificate on file. Tryouts included showing skills in hitting, catching, and throwing. The coaches for the Lady Rebels are Mrs. Lori McCrory, Mr. Randy Grant and Mrs. Lisa Smith. Students who participated in tryouts were Rebecca Kidd, Kendra Ward, Daphne Jirring, Christina Shuman, Rebecca Ward, Christie Roberts, Heather Danley, Tara Grant, Ceretha Towles, Marlena Kerr, Trista Seacat, Charlie Clark, Megan Legg, Kristie Hall and Jennifer Myers.

### SR. BETA CLUB MEETING

by Paige Hudson  
On Wednesday, February 17, the Zion Chapel Chapter of the Sr. Beta Club held its regular monthly meeting. President Charlie Maddox discussed the Alabama Beta Convention. The convention is scheduled to be held March 11-12 in Birmingham. The Beta Club members will be housed at the Sheraton Hotel. The students discussed the rooming assignments, departure and arrival time, and the trip itinerary. There was no new business, and the meeting adjourned promptly.

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**FBLA COMPETITORS PICTURED ABOVE**

Jessica Cotton will be competing in Economics. Kendra Ward, Alisha Walker, Michell McIntosh, and Carissa Walker make up the Entrepreneurship team. Angie Laney will be competing in

Public Speaking; Ryan Leverett in Accounting I, and Chan Grantham in Mr. FBLA. Accounting II and Ms. FBLA are the only two competitions in which there is no Zion Chapel competitor. There will be three finalists in

each event at District Competition. All three finalists will be eligible to compete at the State Leadership Conference. A member must attend District Competition, even if not competing, to attend State Competition.

## February FBLA Meeting Productive

by Crisly Houston  
The Zion Chapel Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) was called to order at 11:03 a.m. in the auditorium with 52 members and 14 guests present.

After roll call, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Heather Arnold then read a letter from the District IV Vice-President, Sara Warnock. In the letter, Sara encouraged FBLA members to compete in the district competition.

There was no old business, so new business was moved right to the top. The FBLA members voted to buy a picnic table for the break area for \$65. There was also an executive council meeting scheduled for see-

ond break on Feb. 11 in the computer lab. Justin Law, Jessica Kelley, Tara Grant, Daphne Jirring, and Morgan Hodge, members of the parliamentary procedure team, gave a presentation of a sample meeting that they had written for use in future competitions.

The dates for the district and state meetings were announced. The District Conference will be March 13 in Montgomery and State Conference will be April 15-16 in Birmingham. It was announced that if a member does not attend the district meeting then that member will not be allowed to attend the state meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m. After adjournment members worked on flyers for the March of Dimes. Members could pay \$1 to have their flyer hung in the hall for display.

## Rebel Basketball

### LADY REBELS SEASON COMES TO AN END

by Josh Faircloth, Bo Adkison, Chan Grantham, & Charlie Maddox  
The Lady Rebels finished off their season with a 2-20 record. The two wins of the Lady Rebels came at the beginning of the season against the Kinston Bulldogs and Samson Tigers. Kendra Ward led the Lady Rebels with 269 points for the season. Rebecca Kidd was the second leading scorer for the Lady Rebels with 210 points. The other scorers for the Rebels were Kayla Edlins with 161 points, Tara Grant with 99 points, Jessica Kelley with 23 points, Jessica Flowers with 15 points, Morgan Hodge with 14 points, Jennifer Myers with 13 points, Crystal Boyd with 10 points, and Mallorie Besdole with 7 points.

### JUNIOR VARSITY SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

by Josh Faircloth, Bo Adkison, & Charlie Maddox  
The Junior Varsity Boys ended their season with a 12-4 record. The Rebels recorded victories against the Kinston Bulldogs, Straughn Tigers, Elba Tigers, G.W. Long Rebels, Arton Purple Cats, Florida Wildcats, and New Brockton Gamecocks. The leading scorer for the Rebels was Marcus Taylor with 195 points. Wes Bragg added 126 points. Other scorers for the Rebels were Justin Prescott with 86 points, Johnny Brannan with 81 points, Josh McWaters with 56 points, Randall Branson with 20 points, Matthew McDermott with 3 points, and Jon Sanders and Jonah Edmonson with 2 points each.

### REBELS SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

by Josh Faircloth, Bo Adkison, Chan Grantham, & Charlie Maddox  
The Varsity Boys season ended with a 4-18 record. The Rebels had two victories over their rival, the Arton Purple Cats. Their other wins came against the Straughn Tigers and the Kinston Bulldogs. The leading scorer for the Rebels was Josh Grantham with 407 points. Junior Jones added 138 points and Bo Adkison followed with 114 points. Other scorers for the Rebels were Chan Grantham with 104 points, Justin Law with 102 points, Josh Faircloth with 99 points, Alan Sanders with 26 points, John Arnold with 22 points, and Jason Spear with 11 points.

## Coffee County Schools Menu March 1 - 5, 1999

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Cheese Grits, Toast, Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Hamburger, Tossed Salad, Mexican Corn, Fruit, Cookie, Milk
Tuesday - Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Turkey Stir Fry & Rice, Steak Fingers, Green Beans, Okra, Fruit, Kolls, Milk
Wednesday - Donuts, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Chicken Salad & Pita Pocket, Rib B Cue, French Fries, June Peas, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Thursday - French Toast, Ham, Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Hot Dog, Beef & Veg. Soup, Cole Slaw, Tater Tots, Fruit Cobbler, Milk, Crackers
Friday - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Beef & Cheese Nachos, Turkey Sandwich, W.K. Corn, Mixed Vegetables, Cookie, Fruit, Milk

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## Co-Op Spotlight



by Deana Gifford  
This week's Co-op Spotlight focuses on **HUNTER HARGROVE**. He is employed by Hargrove Lawn Care and Pressure Washing where he cuts grass, pressure washes houses, and builds and maintains flower beds.

Hunter is the son of Vivian and Lenard Hargrove and is a senior at Elba High School. He is an active member of VICA and FFA. In his spare time he enjoys hunting, being with friends and going to the beach after high school. Hunter plans to pursue his education at Auburn University where he will major in Landscape Architecture.

We are proud to shine this week's Co-op Spotlight on **Hunter Hargrove**. The profits went to St. Jude Hospital to help pay for the expenses needed to treat patients. Our school raised a total of \$1763.15. The top salesperson and the only one to raise over \$100 was Dustin Rhoades. He raised a grand

## Tiger Tales



**Anna Maddox**  
Editor  
**Daniel Murdock**  
Editor

## Elba Math-A-Thon Raises \$1,763.15

by Emilee Benbow  
Recently forty students in the Elba School system participated in the annual Math-A-Thon. This program gave the students a chance to win prizes while they raised money for a very worthwhile cause. All of

## Internet Access Offers Much

by Justin Maddox  
The Internet is a combination of a great deal of things. It is a source of entertainment. It is a fast way of communicating. It is a system of knowledge and the largest single compilation of references and resources. It is a source of lies and a source of truths. It covers every continent in the world, including Antarctica. The list of how it is used and what it is made up of is immense. This article, however, is not based on these things. Rather, it is focused on the ability of the people to access this information. Four things are required for the Internet to be accessed: a computer, a modem, an account, and the proper software. When these things are all combined, the "net" can almost fall at one's fingertips.

Yet, another situation lies in the way people tend to ask, "By what means can I obtain entrance to this vast 'Internet' without purchasing all of the preceding?" Well, there are other places besides the home available for Internet connection. Often schools, places of employment, or friends and relatives have a connection to the Internet. There also may be a college, an education center, or even an access club nearby. Often, access clubs are free, because they are there for the community's benefit. All of these places make the Internet accessible to almost everyone who makes an effort to participate.

As the Internet's use expands, the accessibility will increase. It is estimated that anywhere between 30 to 50 million households will have means of connecting to the Internet by the end of the decade. This is almost equal to the number of households with cable T.V. As of June '98, there were about 122 million Internet users. This will probably increase to 1 billion users by the year 2001. As this growth continues, more and more things will be done over the net, accessing the net will grow more convenient, and accessibility will be even more useful than it is at the present moment.

### MATH TOURNAMENT

by Casey Henderson  
On February 5, 1999, Mr. Ricky Carlile's Calculus class traveled to Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College to compete in the 30th Annual Math Tournament in Andalusia. Twenty-two schools from around Alabama and Florida participated in the tournament. When the 12 Calculus students from Elba arrived at LBW, they each took a written test. Then after lunch, 4 students participated in the ciphering part of the competition. After all the competition was through, the LBW singers performed for the students. Finally, the students traveled home after a long day of working their brains.

### GIRL'S VARSITY BASKETBALL REVIEW

by Lance Boutwell  
The varsity Elba girls basketball season has finally come to an end. They ended the season with a 11-14 record. The girls improved this year from last season despite losing some key players. The four highest rebounds were Vaughn Boyd - 205, Roshanda McKinnon - 186, Rachel Bludsworth - 122, and Detria Jones with 110 boards. The leading scorers were Roshanda McKinnon - 240, Detria Jones - 220, Gina Mack - 200, and Teshia Daniels with - 114 points. Casey Skinner, Kerri Lawford, and Melissa Kelly were the other major contributors to the team's success. The Tigers will only lose two players from this year's team and they are expecting a winning record for the 1999-2000 season. Good luck to next year's team and congratulations to the girls for an improved season.

## SUPPORT OUR YOUTH & YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS - GET INVOLVED

### Elba Elementary School Menu March 1 - 5, 1999

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Cinnamon Toast, Applesauce, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Hot Dog, Tater Tots, California-style Vegetables, Cookie, Milk
Tuesday - Pancakes w/Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Vegetable Beef Soup, Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Wednesday - Biscuit, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Broccoli w/Cheese sauce, Corn, Peach half, Milk
Thursday - Breakfast Pizza, 1/2 Apple, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Bar-B-Q Ribs, Red Beans & Rice, Green Beans, Bread, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Cereal, Toast/Jelly, Juice, Milk	Friday - Steakfingers, Field Peas, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Pear half, Roll, Milk

## ESJC NEWS

Learn all about the investments available today in Enterprise State Junior College's special interest course Principles of Investing. Participants will examine many of the investments available today, the advantages and disadvantages of each, and which ones meet personal financial needs and goals. They will learn to identify the six common reasons people fail at investing, identify the eight rules for successful investing, demonstrate an understanding of the difference between bond and equity investments, demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between risk and reward, and structure a suitable portfolio given risk and reward parameters. The course will be taught Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., March 25-May 13. There is a March 18 registration deadline and a \$35 fee for the course. For more information, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

## MacArthur Tech News

Douglas MacArthur State Technical College will offer "Excel 97 for Windows" from 5 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. Tuesdays, starting March 2. The course will last seven weeks and CEU is available. For more information or to register, call Hughey Clark at 334-493-3573, ext. 233.

# SCHOOLS

## EHS Band Students make All-State

by Justin Maddox  
Tryouts for the Alabama All State Bands are officially over. Students from 67 counties in Alabama traveled to various tryout spots in the state. Each of these students had to play three prepared exercises, a number of scales, and sight-read (play a piece of music that they had never seen before).

All of the students who tried out for All-State worked long and hard in an effort to claim a spot in a band with some of the best players in the state. The bands are divided into



Pictured above (l-r): Ashley Harelson, Gunter Akridge, Bethany Dye, Katrina Farris, Wesley Kelley, and Justin Maddox.

Junior and Senior High Bands. They are also divided into red, white, and blue bands, with red being the top band. The Elba Band is proud to say that six of its members were selected for All-State this year. They are as follows: Senior High All State: Gunter Akridge-trombone; Bethany Dye-baritone; and Justin Maddox-

## Vocational Ed Shadowing Program

by Reese Grantham

This year on February 2, 1999, Elba High School held a Shadowing Program. Students who participated in a vocational class were selected to go "shadow," or watch and participate, with a worker in the business field they felt they were going to pursue after graduation. The students went through the day with the men and women seeing just exactly what the business world is like and in day out. About 20 students participated in the program. This experience gave students a chance to see what their prospective fields of work held in store for them.

Mark Wicker was a student who participated in the Shadowing Program. He really enjoyed the program and found that it gave great insight into the medical field. Lee English also participated in the program. He was thinking of law as a future career. He said that he enjoyed the shadowing program very much. However, he was able to come to the conclusion that he did not want to pursue a career in law.

From one Eagle Scout to another Eagle Scout...  
**CONGRATULATIONS Glenn Davis**  
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## Local residents have devoted years to helping disabled students

by Linda Hodge

Most people find it very gratifying to be able to help another person, and this type of gratification reaches some individuals through their work.

Lena Farris and Wallace Belcher, both of Elba, have a combined 25 years of service as foster grandparents at Project Independence School in New Brockton.

Laurie Carter, director of Project Independence, said the program was originally started in the middle 1970s as a school for children with multiple disabilities. It remained that until four or five years ago when she said Project Independence began providing preschool services for children with disabilities as well.

Although the school is part of the Coffee County School system, Carter said they really depend on Farris and Belcher to reach the students.

Despite her own health problems, Farris has been working with the students for the past 17 years.

"I just want to help someone who



Lena Farris and Wallace Belcher have a combined 25 years of service with Project Independence School in New Brockton. They serve as foster grandparents for the school's children.

is in worse shape than me," Farris said. "This means so much to me that when I began working here, I offered not to take any money for working, but they insisted on paying me."

She said she began the job making 40 cents an hour and now makes \$102 if she works two weeks.

Even though she would continue working with the students without the money, she said it is helpful in paying for her medicine each month.

Farris said she and Belcher, who has been at the school for the past eight years, work Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and she would rather come and work with the students any day than sit at home.

"I have arthritis so bad that I have to take Advil every morning before I come to work," Farris said. "But I forget about my pain when I get here and work with the students."

Carter said Farris and Belcher provide a great deal of individual attention to the students. This is something that a teacher does not always have enough time to do, and

she said it is comforting to everyone at the school to have people like Farris and Belcher to take up lots of time with the students.

Carter said Farris and Belcher assist the students with their grooming, eating, feeding and motor skills. She said their work creates such a positive atmosphere at the school, and the students love having them around.

"They are such a driving force around here," said Carter. "I don't know what we would do without them."

She said the foster grandparents have an in-service day once a month and are not able to come to the school. It is these days when she said they realize how much the grandparents mean to everyone at the school. And, the school and the students also mean a lot to Farris

and Belcher.

Carter said when Farris had hip surgery a while back, she was constantly trying to meet the requirements of the doctors where she could return to the school and her students as soon as possible.

"I will continue to come and work as long as they need me, as long as we have children, and as long as I am able," Farris said.

As she spoke of the dedication and love both Farris and Belcher have for the students and the school, Carter said they may still be around when she retires.

This comes from the simple answer Belcher offered as to why he is involved with the Project Independence program.

"I just like it," he said. "I just do what I can for them."

**FAX**

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## Unemployment compensation not affected by Y2K 'bug'

The Year 2000 problem, commonly referred to as the Y2K 'bug' hasn't hampered the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations in processing unemployment compensation claims for unemployed workers.

"All claims made on or after January 4, the first business day of 1999, have been processed normally without delays," said Industrial Relations Director Alice McKinney.

"The date is significant because that's when the unemployment benefit payment system began operating with 'benefit year' dates ending in the Year 2000."

Through the first week in February, the Department of Industrial Relations had processed over 63,000 unemployment claims without any negative effects from Y2K. There were also no Y2K glitches encountered with the more

than 136,000 unemployment checks issued in January.

"The modification of computer programs to address the Y2K threat began nearly two years ago, and has successfully prevented any potential dilemmas," said McKinney.

The Department of Industrial Relations is using a unique method, encapsulation, to combat the Year 2000 problem. Encapsulation shifts all dates downward by 28 years, so

the Year 2000 is represented as 1972. The rationale is that each calendar year is replicated every 28 years.

"Using a 28-year shift brings the days of the week and calendar dates into correct synchronization," said John Pribulick, Industrial Relations Year 2000 project coordinator. "We are the only state labor department in our southeastern region using this method."

### Limited money available from NRCS for replanting trees

The Natural Resources Conservation Service has received a limited amount of funding to assist Alabama landowners in replanting trees that did not survive the drought of this past summer. There will be a sign-up from March 1 to March 12 to take applications at the Coffee County NRCS and Soil and Water Conservation District Office. To be eligible for cost-share, the survival rate of seedlings should be less than 300 trees per acre. For more information contact your local NRCS and Soil and Water Conservation District Office.

### CCC announces price for 1999 quota peanuts

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) has announced that the national average price support level for 1999 quota peanuts will be \$610 per short ton, the same as a year earlier. That level is mandated for marketing years 1996 through 2002 by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.

The national average support level for additional peanuts will be \$175 per short ton, the same as the 1998 crop. Additional peanuts are those marketed in a quantity greater than a farm's quota. The price support level for additional peanuts must be set at a level designed to ensure that no loss to CCC results from the sale or disposal of additional peanuts. In deciding upon the announced level, CCC considered the demand for peanut oil and peanut meal, the expected price for other vegetable oils and protein meals, and the demand for peanuts in foreign markets.

The marketing assessment for 1999-crop quota and additional peanuts will be 1.2 percent of the applicable quota or additional support rate. Growers will pay 0.65 percent and first buyers, whether purchasing peanuts from producers or from the price support loan inventory, will pay .55 percent. Growers who directly market their peanuts outside normal loan or handler channels must pay the total marketing assessment in compliance with published regulations.

The minimum price at which CCC will sell its 1999-crop additional peanuts for export edible use will be announced at a later date. For individual lots of quota and additional peanuts alike, the annual price support levels are subject to quality and other adjustments.

## AFTER PRESIDENTS' DAY SAVINGS

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#### NEW WHIRLPOOL REFRIGERATOR FREEZER

17 Cu. Ft. 2 Door, No Frost, Was \$399

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## MacArthur Tech's Outstanding Graduate

by Susan Staglino  
Kim McBride, a 1993 graduate of MacArthur State Technical College and recently featured as an outstanding graduate in the 1999 Chancellor's "Keypoint" "Priorities of Excellence," said she felt so prepared for the job market that going to work for Alabama Electric Cooperative was like "just moving into a different classroom."

An Elba native, McBride said that while at Elba High School, "math was one of her favorite subjects." She applied that love of math to the field of drafting, and graduated from MacArthur Tech with her Associate's Degree in Applied Technology in Drafting and Design.

McBride landed a job one week before graduation and started working for Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC) in Andalusia the next week. She began drafting substation designs and was then promoted to drawing maps. McBride's maps show landowners how their property will be affected by the placement of power lines, or the construction of a substation. In addition to drafting maps, in her spare time McBride designs pamphlets and brochures for the AEC marketing department.

"Kim is more than capable. She knows what to do, and she knows what we like," said Pete Stone, Land Management Supervisor, and McBride's immediate supervisor. "If we have an opening in our company, we generally go to MacArthur because of the educational program. MacArthur has very capable graduates."

McBride, too, explained that she felt capable and competent when



Kim McBride now an employee of AEC

leaving MacArthur. "It helped to have teachers who have been in the field," she said. "They knew real-world techniques. They taught me how to meet deadlines and taught me office procedures - exactly like what is needed in the job market."

Although McBride's manager said she is "very knowledgeable" in AutoCAD, she maintains her skills by attending on-the-job computer

and AutoCAD seminars. In the future, McBride plans to remain with AEC, and looks forward to moving up within the company.

When not at work, McBride volunteers with the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Organization of Elba and attends Abundant Life Church in Samson. She has two children, Jordan, 7, and Jo-Jo, 5.

## Fred O. Braswell named president & Chief Exec. Officer of AREA

Fred O. Braswell has been named president and chief executive officer of the Alabama Rural Electric Association of Cooperatives (AREA).

Braswell most recently served as cooperative vice president of external affairs for Russell Corporation in Alexander City.

Before joining Russell Corporation, he served as director of the Alabama Development Office and director of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

"We are extremely fortunate to have a person with such a strong background in economic development, coupled with extensive experience in congressional and legislative affairs," said Jack Bailey, chairman of AREA's Board of Directors. "We feel we have found the perfect person to lead Alabama's electric cooperatives through the challenges that lay ahead."

The Alabama Rural Electric Association of Cooperatives is a federation of 22 not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives.

Alabama's electric cooperatives represent more than one million customers in 60 of the state's 67 counties.

## Boomers to impact programs & products as Seniors

First "Hippies," then "Yuppies," the "Baby Boom" generation will become the "oldies" of this country in the next century. As it has at every stage of life, this generation will have a huge impact on everything from social issues to government programs to consumer products as it ages, predicts Dr. Lucinda Roff, dean of The University of Alabama School of Social Work and an expert on aging and the elderly.

"By the year 2030, people 65 and older will make up over 20 percent of the American population - one in five people," Roff said. "That's a tremendous change from 1900 when older people made up only four percent of the population."

Roff predicts that this new group of older people will actually comprise two distinct subgroups. "Because Americans are living longer and, on the whole, healthier, we'll have 'vigorous elders,' mostly between the ages of 65-80, and 'frail elders,' typically over the age of 80," she said.

"The 'vigorous' group will be well educated, physically fit, savvy consumers and many will go into second careers or part-time jobs when they retire from their primary occupations," Roff predicts. "They will demand products and services that are consistent with their lifestyles, so we'll see growth in retirement communities, the leisure and travel industry, and consumer products aimed at older adults."

However, Roff says that the second tier of older people will likely still suffer problems with aging. "Unless there are some major breakthroughs in medicine, the oldest old people will have trouble with the typical chronic illnesses," Roff said.

For this group, she predicts that long-term care needs will increase and new options will be created. "Nursing homes will not be the only option children have for their aging parents. There will be a tremendous rise in assisted living centers, at-home care, elder daycare and respite care," she said.

Roff also predicts that this increase in "gray power" will mean that government programs such as Social Security and Medicare will survive into the next century. "I think the expectation is that later life deserves a certain standard and quality of life and our government has made that commitment. It's going to be very hard to go back on that," she said.

Roff says the government will deal with the increased use of these programs in three ways: by gradually pushing up the retirement age for the Social Security system; by taxing Social Security benefits for higher-income seniors; and by increasing Social Security taxes for the working generations.

Contact: Dr. Lucinda Roff, 205/348-3924 (office); 759-4006 (home).

**FAX**

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LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE...The Young Farmers Program is a division of the Alabama Farmers Federation and is designed to assist young farmers in their development of leadership skills and to address issues facing agriculture and those involved in farming. Coffee County Young Farmers Committee members attended the Leadership Conference Feb. 12-14. Seated left to right: Betsy Watson, Sharon Caylor, 1999 Miss Alabama; Agriculture - Katherine Marsh, Tamberli Bryan, Holly Watson and Jesse Watson. Standing left to right are: Jeff Watson, Bill Carter, Steve Wyrodsick, Steven Bozeman, and County Chairman - John Watson.

## Wiregrass Nursing Home to host Arts & Craft Festival

Wiregrass Nursing Home in Geneva, Ala. will host their 16th Annual Spring Arts/Crafts Festival on April 10 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

There will be live entertainment throughout the day with lots of fun for the entire family. Booth spaces are available inside and outside the facility with spaces for food vendors also. Booth spaces are \$20 each.

For more information please contact: Deborah Davis, activity director, at (334) 684-3655 ext. 6421 or Wynell Stafford at 684-3655 ext. 6422 or Cathy Jackson or Vera Baine at 684-9716.

Wiregrass Nursing Home is located on Hwy. 52 East adjacent to Wiregrass Hospital and directly in front of Hardee's.

## State posts record January jobless rate on heels of banner 1998

Alabama kicked off 1999 with a record low January unemployment rate of 3.9 percent, which is a decrease from December's 4.5 percent jobless rate.

"We actually have good unemployment news to report on two fronts," said Alice McKinney, director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations. "In addition to the slight drop in the jobless rate, Alabama's 4.2 percent overall unemployment rate in 1998 shattered the previous yearly state record of 5.1 percent set in both 1997 and 1996."

January's 3.9 percent unemployment rate was well below the 4.5 percent rate posted in January 1998. Last month's national unemployment rate was 4.3 percent, unchanged from the December 1998 figure.

The state's latest unemployment rate represents 85,100 unemployed persons, which is 2,200 less than the previous month. In January 1998 the total number of unemployed persons was 96,700.

Job gains over the past year continued in service producing sectors with increases in trade (+22,200), leading the way; followed by services (+20,500); and finance, insurance, and real estate markets (+1,800). Construction jobs rose 9,600 during the past year, while factory jobs declined 4,100.

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## Thanks a Million

WEEKLY SYNDICATED COLUMN BY PERCY ROSS

Millionaire Percy Ross is known for his philanthropic work. He offers help and encouragement for those in need. He has earned a fortune and a wealth of knowledge during his lifetime and wants to share both. His motto: "He who gives while he lives... also knows where it goes." www.thanksamillion.com

### Dig A Little Deeper, Then Dig Some More

Dear Mr. Ross: Have I got a story for you. It started when we had our first taste of snow this year. See, there is this elderly lady who I always see walking up and down our street and she is always wearing the same clothes. I had never really spoken with her, but my daughter talks to her and gives her our cans (5-cents each). Well, when my neighbors moved away they threw away some ragged blankets and clothes. Late that day I noticed this elderly lady going through the stuff thrown out. This prompted me to gather up a few of my own blankets, which I gave to her. I had to help her carry them home and I felt so sad when I saw where she lived. She lives in a run-down, one-room shack.

It was that same day that I read your column where a lady needed help and you helped her. That's when I thought, "I had better help this lady the week before asking for help because we are in debt and we wanted my stepsister to come home for Christmas. Suddenly I felt so selfish, so here's what we did."

My husband and I went to the Goodwill and purchased a twin bed, some blankets, sheets, pillows and a woman's coat, mittens and ear muffs. We also purchased a recliner and went through my closet and got some clothes together I never wear anymore.

When we saw the lady walking down the road, away from her home, my husband took over all the things we purchased and dropped them off with a note, "Happy Holidays." I didn't want to offend her so that's why we did it anonymously.

We later that day drove by and she was moving the items into her home with a smile. She was even wearing the coat I gave her. I can't tell you how good I felt knowing she will be warm and not have to sleep on the floor anymore. I couldn't afford the \$75 I spent, but it was worth putting off one of my past due bills for one more month. The \$500 I requested in my previous letter, please give it to someone else who needs it more.

Mrs. T. G. ... The Tribune, Sioux City, IA

Dear Mrs. G.: I was about to dedicate this week's column to strictly "turn downs" because my mail was so outrageous. People asking for brand new cars, vacations, new wardrobes, etc. I was really losing faith in my philanthropy and seriously beginning to wonder if this column brought out more greed in people than need.

Then your letter surfaced. How can I explain the extent to which your letter has touched me? To think I inspired you to not only give up your request, but to also give of yourself when you didn't have the extra to give! Wow—thank you just doesn't say enough.

So, the \$500 you requested? I decided to quadruple it and am sending \$2,000 to a family in Fort Dodge, Iowa who I'm sure you would approve of—5 children, mother ill, father out of work and the saddest part—little to no hope that things will improve. That is until you became the catalyst and inspired me to dig just a little deeper in my pockets and truly make a difference—just as you have done.

Dear Readers: A few weeks ago I printed a letter from Mr. Billy Durham regarding an herbal alternative to Viagra called Yohimbe. I made the mistake of printing his phone number and not an address.

Poor Mr. Durham has been inundated with phone calls and has felt burdened by the fact that many left a message for a return call from him. Turns out he can't afford to return long distance phone calls. A bottle of 60 pills sells for \$10, which includes shipping. His profit is only \$1.50. I am by no means endorsing the product, but if you're interested and have \$10 to burn, you may contact Mr. Durham at P.O. Box 132, Plainview, Texas 79073. Your pharmacist may not love you for it, but perhaps your wife will.

When we approach the spring of the year, many folks start to think about planting new hayfields and new pastures. January and February is an excellent time to begin this process.

When planting Bahiagrass, it should be planted one quarter to one half inch deep at the rate of 15 to 20 pounds to the acre. Bahia does not need to be real deep in the ground but needs to certainly contact the soil in some fashion. It is a very slow germinating seed but once it gets started is one of the most vigorous producers that we have. If your fertility is high, very little will invade Bahiagrass.

There are three main varieties of Bahia: Pensacola, Argentine, and the newest variety Tif-9. Pensacola is certainly a good, tried and true variety. It's good in sand, very vigorous, and a strong producer as long as adequate nutrition and rainfall are available. Pensacola is very drought hardy and very cold hardy.

Argentine has not been a variety that has the broad base of production that Pensacola possesses. When everything is good, Argentine is a very good variety. However, it has not been the trouble-free variety that Pensacola is.

The new Tif-9 variety is a highly selected Pensacola. This variety will produce at least 25 to 30 percent more forage than either Pensacola or Argentine.



1999 Coffee County Cattlemen's Association Officers & Board: Front row - left to right: Dan Presley, treasurer; Ray Barley, 2nd Vice President; Richard McLeod, 1st Vice President; Phil Farris, President. Middle row - left to right: Michael McCart, James Snell, Mike Bailey, Byron Brunson. Back row - left to right: Dick Cullen, Don Bradshaw, Greg Schrand.

## This is the time for the planning and planting of new hay fields

Stan Windham  
County Extension Agent

As we approach the spring of the year, many folks start to think about planting new hayfields and new pastures. January and February is an excellent time to begin this process.

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The new Tif-9 variety is a highly selected Pensacola. This variety will produce at least 25 to 30 percent more forage than either Pensacola or Argentine.

Argentine of this I am convinced. Now this of course is due to the fact that you have to have adequate fertility and rain fall must at least be adequate. Tif-9 will make a very good grazing grass and you can also hay it. Incidentally, Bahiagrass hay nutritionally is every bit as potent and nutritious as Bermudagrass hay. The big problem we have had in the past is we don't get the tonnage from Bahia that we do from Bermudagrass as it relates to hay. Tif-9 has the potential to give you more tonnage and compete well with the Bermudagrass varieties in the hay department. There is however, no grass out there that will compete with Bahia in terms of a grazing summer perennial grass.

When planting any of the hybrid Bermudagrass they must be sprigged. If you plant in rows, you will plant ten bushels of sprigs to the acre. If you broadcast you will need three times that or thirty bushels to the acre. I certainly recommend going the row route.

There are three varieties that I would like to address in this article: coastal, Tifton-85, and Russell. Coastal Bermudagrass is like Pensacola Bahiagrass, it is a tried and true variety. It still ranks in the top five among all the Bermudagrass hybrids on just about any test, and in many cases, will be up in the top two or three. Coastal is still a good variety to plant for a hayfield or grazing. Two varieties that will out-

produce it are Tifton-85 and Russell both Hybrid Bermudagrass. Tifton-85 is a super good producer, fast starter, and seems to be very hardy in many ways. The only negative that I have noticed is that it has a large stem. The Russell variety, depending on which test, may not produce quite as much as Tifton-85, at least on the fields I have seen in this area. It is, however, not very far behind it and you don't have the large stem that Tifton-85 presents. All three hybrid Bermudagrass are good varieties and will work well in your given situation.

When planning either Bahia or Bermudagrass timing is very important. My suggestion would be to go in as soon as you can this spring once the last frost has pretty much gone by the way side. If you get a frost on the young seedlings without much of a root system their survival will be next to nothing. But if you wait too late in the year you lose some valuable time of growth that will really help the plant later on.

By planting early, say late February-March, you give the grass the full spring and summer season to develop its root system and thus will make it much, much harder down the road.

If you have any questions related to the planting or utilization of Bahiagrass or the hybrid Bermudagrasses, please feel free to give me a call at 894-5596 and we'll be more than happy to help you.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



THE ANNUAL ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET was held January 30, at the Elba High School Cafeteria. Top left picture: Leanne Mallory entertained with several popular tunes. Top right picture: Beauty Queens graced the audience; Bottom left: Guest Speaker Mark Robbins (Bubba), Miss Elba Misty Kelley and her father Jerry Kelley; Bottom Right: Kay Whitworth, Chamber of Commerce Director.

## Chocolate can be part of a healthy diet

Angela Hughes  
County Extension Agent

Chocolate is one of America's favorite flavors. In fact, February is "Celebration of Chocolate Month." Chocolate can be part of a healthy diet if you balance your food choices using the Food Guide Pyramid, says Dr. Barbara Struempfer, a nutritionist with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. It's an extra bonus to be able to reduce the fat in chocolate desserts and treats without sacrificing taste, she says.

Many prepared reduced-fat, chocolate desserts and treats are on the market today. Consumers can reduce the fat in their favorite homemade chocolate recipes by substituting traditional ingredients with lower-fat ingredients or by taking advantage of new reduced-calorie and reduced-fat products on the market.

## Keeping calcium in your diet builds and keeps bones strong

Susan Taylor  
County Extension Agent/NEP

Most Americans do not get enough calcium in their diets. This is especially true for teens who are building bone density and post-menopausal women who are at risk for osteoporosis.

Children from age 1 to age 10 need 800 milligrams of calcium per day (the amount in 2-8 oz. glasses of milk); adolescents and young adults 11 to 24 years need 1,200 milligrams (the amount in 4-8 oz.

glasses of milk); adults over 25 need 800 milligrams (the amount in 2-8 oz. glasses of milk); pregnant or nursing women need 1,200 (the amount in 4-8 oz. glasses of milk); and pregnant or nursing teens need 1,600 milligrams (the amount in 5-8 oz. glasses of milk). Some recent research indicates that post-menopausal women need 1,000 to 1,500 milligrams daily to help maintain bone density. There is also evidence that beginning in their 30's women should keep their intake at

1,000 milligrams per day to build up bone mass before menopause.

One way to increase the amount of calcium in your diet is to use yogurt along with other dairy products. Plain yogurt has 350 milligrams of calcium per 8 ounce serving.

One serving of milk or cheese has approximately 300 milligrams of calcium. This makes dairy products an excellent source of calcium and non-fat and low-fat milk and cheeses offer good choices to get calcium without increasing saturated fat intake. Low-fat yogurt is a way to add calcium, texture, and richness to everyday recipes without adding extra fat.

Yogurt can take the place of mayonnaise in salad dressings. Just add herbs, spices, or condiments such as mustard to the yogurt for added flavor. It can be used to thicken casseroles and sauces. Just add a couple of tablespoons of flour to a cup of plain yogurt for the sauce base. Yogurt can replace higher calorie cheese in a fettuccine dish. It can also replace sour cream in dishes such as beef stroganoff or Swedish meatballs.

And, of course, there are many commercial frozen yogurt products to use in place of ice cream in desserts.

Following the Food Guide Pyramid recommendations for two to three servings of dairy products a day will help keep bones strong.

## Top Peanut varieties to be planted in Coffee County

Richard L. Petcher  
County Extension Agent

The top peanut varieties to be planted in Coffee County in 1999 will be Georgia Green, Florida MDR 98, Southern Runner, GK 7, Florunner, Andro 93, ViruGard and a few others. Reports say the quality of the seed is excellent. Seed availability is also good. Florida MDR 98, of course, will be limited. You will need to get your name in the pot early if you want to plant this variety. Following is a description of these peanut varieties.

Andro 93 - Developed by Dr. Dan Gorbet, University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station. Released in 1993 and is a protected variety to be sold only as a class of certified seed. Earlier in maturity by seven to ten days than Florunner. Has slightly larger seed and pod size than Florunner, normal oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio, and typical runner growth habit.

Florida MDR 98 - Developed by Dr. Dan Gorbet, University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station. Released in 1998. Variety protection has been applied for under the 1994 Amendment of the Plant Variety Protection Act. (MDR stands for Multiple Disease Resistance.) Later in maturity than Florunner by approximately 15 days. Larger seed and pod size than Florunner and has mid-level oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio. Has better resistance than Southern Runner to late leafspot, white mold, rust, tomato spotted wilt virus, and we blotch. No known insect resistance. Released due to significantly larger seed, better yields and grade than Southern Runner. Has larger leaves than Southern Runner, but similar pod venation and seed coat color.

Florunner - Developed by Dr. Al Norden, University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station. Released in 1969. Matures in approximately 135 days and has normal oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio. Has been the industry standard to compare other runner varieties to since its release. No known disease or insect resistance.

Georgia Green - Developed by Dr. William D. Branch, University of Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station. Released in 1995 and protected under the 1994 Amendment of the Plant Variety Protection Act. Same maturity range as Florunner with seed and pod size similar to or slightly more round than Florunner. Normal oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio with intermediate growth habit and considerably less vine growth than Florunner. Resistant to tomato spotted wilt virus, but carries no known insect resistance.

GK 7 - Developed by Dr. Ernest Harvey, AgraTech Seeds Inc. Released in 1984 and protected under the Plant Variety Protection Act. Has slightly larger seed and pod size than Florunner and the same maturity range. Normal oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio with some tomato spotted wilt virus tolerance. No other known disease tolerance and no known insect resistance.

ViruGard - Developed by Dr. Ernest Harvey, AgraTech Seeds Inc. Released in 1997 under the 1994 Amendment of the Plant Variety Protection Act. Considered to be in the same maturity group as Florunner with larger seed and pod size, mid-level oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio, and intermediate growth habit. Generally smaller leaf size than Florunner. No known insect resistance. Resistant to tomato spotted wilt virus. Seedcoat color lighter than Florunner.

Typical runner growth habit with an erect mainstem. Southern Runner - Developed by Dr. Dan Gorbet, University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station. Released in 1986 and protected under the Plant Variety Protection Act. Matures 15 to 20 days later than Florunner with smaller seed and pod size. Has normal oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio with runner growth habit. Has resistance to late leafspot, white mold, rust, and tomato spotted wilt virus. Possibly has some resistance to Southern corn rootworm, possibly more drought tolerant and usually lower LSK and late alfalfa than Florunner. Tan seedcoat and prominent exterior hull venation.

Florunner with larger seed and pod size, mid-level oleic/linoleic fatty acid ratio, and intermediate growth habit. Generally smaller leaf size than Florunner. No known insect resistance. Resistant to tomato spotted wilt virus. Seedcoat color lighter than Florunner.

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## Southern Peas are easy to grow and can be profitable to the land owner

Richard Petcher  
County Extension Agent

Southern peas are one of the easiest crops we have to grow. However, to be profitable yields and quality need to be high. One acre can easily produce between 100 to 200 bushels per acre, or shell out on average 1000 lb. of peas per acre.

Planting time will not start until April 1, but there are several things a grower can do to plan ahead for a successful crop. Peas grow best on well drained sandy soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.5. Fertilize according to soil sample. Using 50 lb. of 4-12-12 in the row or broadcasting 700 lb. before planting will work well. Taking a soil sample would save you money in knowing exactly what fertilizer you need though.

There are two basic types of peas — those producing white broth or brown broth when cooked. The more favorite brown peas are Corneil, Pinkeye Purple Hull, California Blackeye and Mississippi Purple Hull. The more popular White peas are Sabanday, Cream 8, Cream 12, Cream 40, Champion Cream, Elite, Lady Finger, Zipper, and Mississippi Cream.

You can start planting as soon as the soil warms up which is usually April 10 or soon thereafter. You can plant from April until July 10 and then start your fall crop from August 1 until around September 1. Because peas are so fast growing, weed control is fairly easy. Trellis at 1 ft. per acre is your preplant incorporated herbicide. Dacthal and Dual may be used preemergence. Basagran and Poast are postemergence herbicides labeled for use on peas.

When planting early you may have to spray for thrips on young peas. The thrips will attack the terminal and cause the peas to look mottled yellow and possum-eared. Orthene is the chemical of choice here. There are other insects that attack peas but the main one to look out for is the cowpea curculion. In fact you don't have to look for him. Once your peas start blooming, spray every 5 days for three sprays in order to control it. Use a labeled insecticide such as thiodan. If you don't spray for this insect you won't have very many peas to shell.

Nematodes are also a real problem on peas, making them not a good rotation for peanuts. Peas are sensitive to some of the herbicides used on other crops. Cadre used on peanuts has a 24 month plant-back restriction for peas.

Commercially peas are combined around 75 days after planting when the peas are at 15% moisture. Of course for hand picking you begin

whenever the pods are full. Not too many years ago almost everyone in Coffee County had a pea patch. Now pea patches are scarce.

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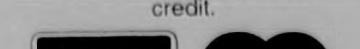
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## Area News



**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS** of the Elba AARP Chapter attended an AARP Regional Workshop at TSU Dothan on Feb. 18. Wilson Newman was presented a certificate by Winston Williams, State Community Services Director, Alabama AARP, and the Elba Chapter 531, AARP, received a Distinguished Chapter Award for 1998. Those attending were: (Seated, l-r): Floyd Morrow, Wilson Newman, Elaine Thompson, and Shorty Martin; (Standing, l-r): Marjorie Morrow, Nell Gilmer, Addileen Prescott, Lillian Taylor, Jim Gilmer, Donald Lee, Alene Lee, and Olive Ray Martin.

### Local Student elected to Student Government Association office

Troy State University student Bo Boyd of New Brockton has been elected to a senators position of the TSU Student Government Association for 1999-2000.

Boyd is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Boyd, and a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, College Republicans, Sigma Chi Fraternity and a Southland Football League All-Academic Team Member.

### Gospel Sing to be held at Haw Hill

There will be a Gospel Singing at Haw Hill Assembly of God Church Feb. 28, at 6 p.m. Featured group will be the Bradys. Everyone is invited.



**NEW COURTHOUSE** Alberto Herrera is shown with this birdhouse modeled after the historic Coffee County Courthouse in Elba. Herrera, a partner in The Briar Patch builds custom birdhouses in his spare time and constructed this one at the request of Elba native George Blanton, Jr. Atlanta. Upon completion of this model, Herrera began work on a slightly smaller model commissioned by former Probate Judge Marion Branson ... but for inside his home and not "for the birds."

### First Annual Sausage Festival to be held in Elba

The First Annual Sausage Festival and Ole Time County Fair is scheduled for Saturday, May 8, at the Heart of Dixie Music Park in Elba. The festival is hosted by the Elba Chamber of Commerce and will be an event with activities for the whole family. There will be a sausage recipe competition, contests for the children, high school band competitions and many other events enjoyed by people in the early 1990s. In addition, there will be arts and crafts and lots of food. For those who would like to make this event an overnight stay, camping hookups are available. For more information, please call Kay Whitworth at the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.

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#### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- High quality, professional photographs will be made locally and at no charge or obligation.
- We, as sponsors, will use and display the photos as a tribute to TOMMOROW'S LEADERS... TODAY
- As a bonus, you will see finished color photos (photos used in the feature will be in black and white) and have an opportunity to purchase any for your family needs - you are not obligated to buy anything. No age limit.

"TOMMOROW'S LEADERS..." Feature is Sponsored by:  
**The Elba Clipper**

DATE: Friday, March 12  
LOC: Elba Clipper - 417 Buford St.  
HRS: 2:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
CALL: Michelle Hudson- For Appt. 897-5113

Photography by  
INTERPRESS STUDIOS

### Crawley appointed to judicial inquiry commission

Court of Civil Appeals Judge John B. Crawley was appointed to the Judicial Inquiry Commission by the Alabama Supreme Court. The appointment made on Feb. 10 is for a four-year term.

Judge Crawley is a native of Troy, Ala., serving from 1991 until 1993 as a circuit judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit for Pike and Coffee Counties. As a practicing attorney in Troy, Crawley helped establish

Hand-In-Hand, a nonprofit organization devoted to assisting handicapped students. He was elected to the Court of Civil Appeals in November 1994 for a six-year term. He serves on the Alabama State

Bar's Committees on Prepaid Legal Services and Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution and on the State Agency ADR Task Force.

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